10

CLAIMS:

1. A high-pressure discharge lamp comprising:

an outer envelope (1) in which a discharge vessel (11) is arranged around a longitudinal axis (22),

the discharge vessel (11) enclosing, in a gastight manner, a discharge space (13) provided with an ionizable filling,

the discharge vessel (11) having a first (2) and a second (3) mutually opposed neck-shaped portion through which a first (4) and a second (5) current-supply conductor, respectively, extend to a pair of electrodes (6, 7) arranged in the discharge space (13),

the outer envelope (1) having a bulb-shaped portion (2) adjacent the discharge

10 space (13),

the bulb-shaped portion (2) having a wall thickness d_1 , the remainder of the outer envelope (1) having a wall thickness d_2 , the ratio of d_1 and d_2 being in a range of:

$$0.35 \le \frac{d_1}{d_2} \le 1.5.$$

2. A high-pressure discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ratio of d_1 and d_2 is in a range of:

$$0.4 \le \frac{d_1}{d_2} \le 0.8.$$

- 3. A high-pressure discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the outer envelope (1) is made from quartz glass, hard glass or soft glass.
- 4. A high-pressure discharge lamp as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the bulb-shaped portion (2) of the outer envelope (1) is formed in a mold.

WO 2005/017946 PCT/IB2004/051389

11

- 5. A high-pressure discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the discharge vessel has a quartz wall or a ceramic wall.
- 6. A high-pressure discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the ratio of the distance d_e between the electrodes (6, 7) to the height h_{dl} of the high-pressure discharge lamp measured along the longitudinal axis (22) lies in a range of:

$$0.02 \leq \frac{d_e}{h_{dl}} \leq 0.2.$$